

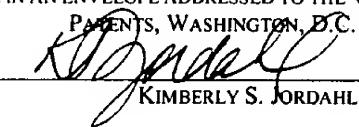


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	EVANS ET AL.	Examiner:	Becker, D.
Serial No.	09/241,508	Group Art Unit:	1761
Filed:	February 1, 1999	FEB 04 2002 7C 1700	
For:	BLUNT EDGE DOUGH CUTTER	Docket No.	PIL0031/US

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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KIMBERLY S. JORDAHL

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Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the outstanding Office Action mailed August 27, 2001. Claims 60-77 were pending in the present application. Claims 75-77 have been withdrawn from consideration and claims 60-74 stand rejected.

Amendments

Please cancel claim 67. Please amend claims 60, 61, 63, 68, 71 and 73 as follows
(marked up sheets showing the claim amendments are enclosed in Exhibit A):

60. (Amended) A dough forming and cutting apparatus for shaping and cutting a dough sheet to provide a plurality of dough pieces for further processing, the dough sheet having a first surface with a first skin and a second surface with a second skin, the apparatus comprising:

a movable cutter capable of sequentially and releasably shaping and cutting the dough sheet to provide at least a portion of the plurality of dough pieces and having a blunt dough engaging portion which is at least approximately 6 mm thick and that extends sufficiently to sever the dough sheet, the blunt dough engaging portion having a dough shaping surface to shape and sever the dough sheet;

wherein the dough shaping surface comprises at least a surface portion that is not perpendicular to the direction of extension of the blunt dough engaging portion for engaging against the dough surface and drawing the first skin toward the second skin until they are substantially pinched together.